



CRIME AND DELINQUENCY IN CALIFORNIA, 1997

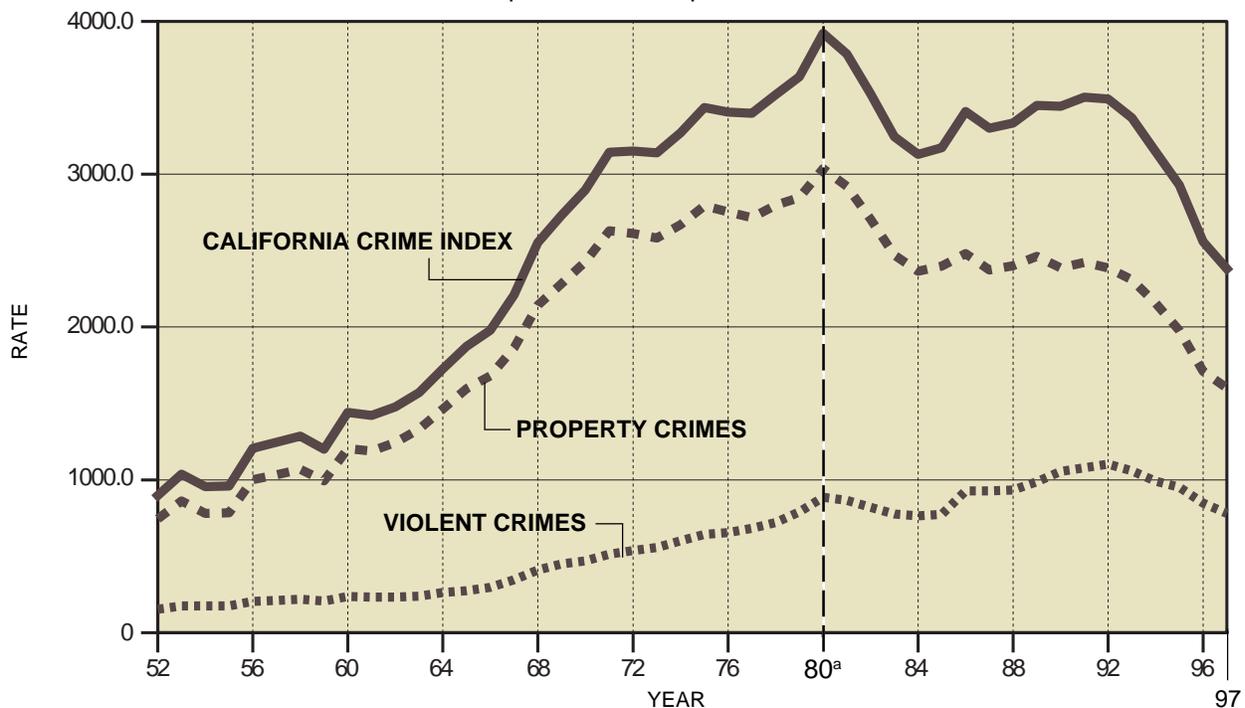
ADVANCE RELEASE

Crime and Delinquency in California, 1997, Advance Release is published by the Department of Justice in order to provide annual 1997 criminal justice data as soon as possible. Information about crimes, arrests, and adult felony arrest dispositions is included.

This publication contains data reported to the Department of Justice for the calendar year 1997. It compares rates for the periods 1996 and 1997. Since 1980 marked a high point for the California Crime Index (CCI), rates for the periods 1980 and 1997 are also compared. The more extensive report, *Crime and Delinquency in California, 1997*, will be published later this year.

Data depicting crime in California have been published continuously for over 40 years. The first publication, *Crime in California*, was issued in 1953 and included data for the 1952 calendar year.

CALIFORNIA CRIME INDEX, 1952-1997
By Category
Rate per 100,000 Population



^a Since 1980 marked a high point for the California Crime Index, it has been compared to 1997 in this publication.

From 1996 to 1997:

- The California Crime Index (CCI) rate decreased 6.9 percent.
- The violent crime rate decreased 7.9 percent.
- The property crime rate decreased 6.5 percent.

CRIMES

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- From 1996 to 1997, reported CCI offenses decreased 6.9 percent in rate per 100,000 population. The CCI decreased 39.3 percent in rate since 1980.
- From 1996 to 1997, the violent crime rate decreased 7.9 percent. The violent crime rate has decreased 11.9 percent since 1980.
- From 1996 to 1997, the property crime rate decreased 6.5 percent. The property crime rate has decreased 47.3 percent since 1980.

ARRESTS

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- From 1996 to 1997, total arrests decreased .9 percent in rate per 100,000 population at risk. Total arrests have decreased 23.3 percent in rate since 1980.
- From 1996 to 1997, felony arrests increased 1.7 percent in rate. Felony arrests have increased 7.5 percent in rate since 1980.
- From 1996 to 1997, misdemeanor arrests decreased 2.5 percent in rate. Misdemeanor arrests have decreased 33.8 percent in rate since 1980.

ADULT FELONY ARREST DISPOSITIONS

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As a percentage of reported adult felony arrest dispositions:

- Law enforcement releases increased from 3.9 percent in 1996 to 4.4 percent in 1997.
- Total complaints denied increased from 14.6 percent in 1996 to 14.9 percent in 1997.
- Dismissals and acquittals increased from 13.3 percent in 1996 to 13.5 percent in 1997.
- Convictions decreased from 68.2 percent in 1996 to 67.2 percent in 1997.

[Individual County Crime Tables, 1996-1997](#)

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